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THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2015

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Police probe 'suspicious' death of boy

CRIME

Five-year-old victim identified as Eneas Emilio Perdomo



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

The Calgary police have opened a homicide investigation into the death of a five-year-old Calgary boy.

The victim, identified by police as Eneas Emilio Perdomo, was brought to Alberta Children's Hospital July 10.

Staff Sgt. Doug said the boy, who went by Emilio, was "suffering from injuries that family members attributed to numerous accidents."

According to Andrus, "hospital staff observed swelling and bleeding all over his body, which was not consistent with the activities of a child his age."

The boy died July 17, at which point an autopsy was conducted. The investigation shifted was handed over to the Calgary Police Homicide Unit.

"The autopsy confirmed that the child had swelling and bruising all over his body, and numerous other serious injuries," said Andrus.

Andrus said family members haven't been ruled out as sus-

pects in this case.

"They have provided us with statements and information," he said. "Those statements and information are not consistent with the injuries suffered by the child."

"These injuries are not indicative of the play of a five-year-old," he added.

Andrus said Emilio arrived in Canada in February and since then hadn't attended school or gone to a caregiver of any kind.

"We've focused our resources outside of the country," he said.

"Emilio was a recent arrival to Canada and we're exploring information in regards to Emilio with individuals outside of the country."

He said police couldn't release where Emilio was from.

"We have information that's conflicting," he said. "As a part of our investigation we're trying to confirm that information."

According to Andrus, police haven't yet confirmed if the people "identified as his parents" are truly related to Emilio; he said it's not clear if they're his biological parents or not.

"We're trying to confirm the relationships between Emilio and the individuals in the house," he said. "They may not be being forthcoming with the information in regards to who has had contact with him."

Police are asking anyone who had close contact with Emilio, or information about this case to call 403-266-1234.



JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

365 DAYS OF PICTURES

Ara Shimoon is spending a year photographing his Calgary community. What inspired him to take on the challenge? metroNEWS

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IN BRIEF

Two hikers in serious condition after mishap in Canmore

Two young hikers were seriously injured in the mountains near Canmore and were taken to hospital in Calgary Wednesday afternoon.

Both patients were male and in serious condition, according to Canmore Fire-Rescue, who assisted in the transfer at the landing zone. Rescuers with Kananaskis Public Safety Section had brought them in from the backcountry by helicopter. Both patients appeared to be in their early 20s.

STARS reported dispatching one of its Calgary helicopters to the Canmore area shortly after 3 p.m. METRO

Blue-green algae found in lake to be used for upcoming triathlon

Blue-green algae has been found in a lake that is to serve as the swimming venue for the Edmonton International Triathlon next month.

Alberta Health Services has issued an advisory for the lake in Hawrelak Park.

Officials say parts of the lake where the algae is not visible can still be used for recreational purposes, even while the advisory is in effect.

The triathlon is scheduled for Sept. 5-6.

Officials with the event say they are working with the city and Alberta Health Services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Average daily bike counts, as reported on Wednesday, at measurement points along each new leg of the cycle-track network. Target levels are in parentheses. COURTESY OF CITY OF CALGARY

Cycle track exceeds and misses targets

RIDERSHIP

Data from bike counts tells an uneven story



Robson Fletcher
Metro | Calgary

Calgary's downtown cycle-track network is already exceeding target ridership levels along some sections while missing those targets by a wide margin in other sections, according to the latest automated bike counts.

Data from every leg of Calgary's new Centre City Cycle Track Network is now available online and the numbers tell an uneven story.

While the average daily volume of riders is higher than target levels at measurement points along the 5 Street SW and 12 Avenue SW cycle tracks, it's far lower than target levels along the 8 Avenue and 9 Avenue South cycle tracks.

The city set those targets in December 2014, based on cyclist volumes observed in the

fall of 2014. The goal is to at least double, triple or quadruple those volumes along various stretches of the network.

Along 12 Avenue, for example, the goal is to more than quadruple ridership as measured just west of 2 Street SW, from the 190 observed last fall to at least 800 by the time the cycle track evaluation is complete at the end of 2016.

So far, that stretch has seen an average of 885 bikes per day.

By contrast, along 8 Avenue, as measured just west of 8 Street SW, the goal is to roughly double ridership from

480 to 1,000, but so far that counter has seen a daily average of just 507 bikes.

It should be noted that the initial goals were based on 16-hour weekday counts, whereas the automated bike counters measure cyclist volumes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and bike counts tend to be higher on weekdays than weekends.

The city records finer data, hour by hour, from the automated counters but only reports daily counts online.

No one from the city was available to speak Wednesday about the new cycle-track data.

ROAD TOLL

Reserve receives support

Reserve residents are getting some support for charging a toll to drivers looking for a shortcut when RCMP rerouted traffic around a fatal crash in southern Alberta this week.

Ken Christensen, tribal administrator with the Stoney Nakoda First Nation along the Trans-Canada Highway west of Calgary, says he's OK with band members pocketing some cash.

On Monday, an 86-year-old woman was killed and six people were injured when a semi truck slammed head-on into a mini van on the Trans-Canada Highway. Police shut down eastbound lanes for several hours and directed vehicles to Highway 1A, which is public but runs through the reserve.

Many vehicles still ended up on reserve roads, said Christensen, who heard that some members pocketed tolls of \$10 or \$20 from drivers that day. But he stressed that motorists weren't forced to pay and could have taken the proper detour.

He sees it as an understandable reaction to overall discontent with drivers trespassing on the reserve's private property.

"I'm not going to condemn nation members because they put a few dollars in their pockets. They're the ones putting up with the inconvenience of all this traffic," Christensen said Wednesday.

In addition to kicking up dust, the increase in traffic poses a danger to livestock and children, Christensen said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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BUDGET

Revenues may be lower than predicted: Notley

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says continued oil-price volatility could be affecting the province's bottom line even more than the former Tory government predicted.

The NDP premier isn't sharing much about what might be in the 2015-16 budget when it comes down in October.

But she does say keeping on top of oil prices remains a priority.

The price per barrel hovered around \$60 US when Notley's

New Democrats were elected in May, but has since fallen to below \$40 US a barrel.

The budget introduced but never passed by the Progressive Conservatives under Jim Prentice last March predicted a record \$5-billion deficit for the current fiscal year.

Notley wouldn't say after a byelection rally on Tuesday night what Albertans will still see in the budget.

"Our revenues have gone down perhaps more than what

the original Prentice budget projected," explained Notley. "At the same time, we need to ... preserve those important public services for those Alberta families."

Notley was at a rally for Calgary-Foothills candidate Bob Hawkesworth and said her government is focused on figuring out the final numbers.

"Those kinds of details will be coming out in the days and the months to come as we get together and introduce the

budget," she said. "I'm not going to announce the budget today, because we're going to announce the budget at the end of October."

Notley suggested the government remains responsible for carving itself out of any mess volatile crude prices create.

"We would not be doing our job if we did not look at where we could do that, while at the same time preserving and protecting frontline services," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



It's been a notably "bad year" for dandelion growth, but the McKenzie Towne neighbourhood is actively publishing information about how they can be used as an alternative resource. METRO FILE

Reconsider herbicides: Community

ENVIRONMENT

City says it only uses harmful chemicals as a last resort



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

A Calgary community has a bone to pick, or weed to whack, when it comes to herbicide use.

As the City of Calgary reviews their herbicide use program, the community of McKenzie Towne, who have been going granola on their turf, are asking the city to reconsider the use of harmful herbicides.

"We've been using a fertilizer on our own property with testing, and we're really happy with the results we have," Christine Hemminger, general manager of McKenzie Towne Council.

"It's making a healthier soil which holds water and chokes out weeds, and it's totally, 100 per cent organic."

She said after seeing the results of using Enviroperfect Solutions' CHI Humics, McKenzie Towne doesn't want to do a herbicide program anymore. Hemminger added the city's program, rotating communities, isn't as effective as spring

and summer applications.

"We want to expand our organic turf management program," she said.

Lincoln Julie, habitat management superintendent for Calgary Parks, told Metro they don't use as much herbicide as the public perceives. It's a sparing application and often done after other methods like aerating the soil, fertilizing and seeding, don't work.

"Generally we'll use a herbicide when the asset, the playing field for example, is in jeopardy," Julie said. "We rotate through communities ... if there's areas within the community that are over the threshold, we can treat. We don't always treat."

The review comes after a notably "bad year" for dandelions — which the city doesn't treat as a noxious weed. Julie noted this public perception happens every year, but added this year's dry weather helped the weed flourish over turf and other vegetation.

"Every year around the end of May through June, sometimes into July, the perception the dandelions are horrible is always there."

Hemminger said their community is trying to improve their neighbourhood's views on dandelions. They have been publishing alternative uses for dandelions to encourage their residents to see the weed as a resource instead of a pest.

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The body of a woman was found by officers in this northeast townhouse. LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

PINDERIDGE

Police investigating suspicious death



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Calgary police are investigating after a woman was found dead inside a home in the northeast community of Pineridge.

According to police, the cause of death remains undetermined but they've taken one man into custody and the homicide unit has been called in to investigate.

Police were called to a home located in the 400 block of Pinehill Rd. NE just before 6 p.m. Tuesday to "check on the welfare of an individual" call. Inside the residence is where officers subsequently found the body.

Janie McCart, who's lived in the neighbourhood for

three years, said she thinks she knows the woman as an acquaintance and said they used to talk on their way to the grocery store.

McCart said she's shocked by the incident.

"I'm surprised for sure," she said. "A lot of things have been happening around here lately; the violence is just progressing."

A lot of things have been happening around here lately; the violence is just progressing.

Janie McCart

Neighbour Alkesh Patel said it's "very scary" especially for his eight-year-old daughter.

"We're safe in our home but it's frightening for us to see police have it all taped off," he said.

Police said an autopsy is expected to take place Wednesday, at which time more information will be made available.

IN BRIEF

Woman dies in crash on Northbound Deerfoot Trail
Northbound Deerfoot Trail was shut down after a fatal crash Wednesday morning.

According to the Calgary Police Twitter feed, the northbound lanes were shut down at South-

land Drive shortly after 8:30 a.m. They said in an update at 9 a.m. that the crash was at the off ramp from Anderson to Deerfoot Trail.

A woman in her 30s was found dead at the scene, according to EMS. METRO

CALGARY CENTRE

Incumbent skips debate to attend mom's birthday party



Robson Fletcher
Metro | Calgary

If there's one riding in the city that might not go to the Conservatives in October's federal election, many observers believe it's Calgary Centre, where all four challengers for the seat squared off in a rapid-fire debate format Wednesday night.

The incumbent, however, did not attend.

Conservative candidate Joan Crockatt, who won the seat in a 2012 byelection, opted to attend her mother's birthday party in Lloydminster instead of taking part in the forum.

"We are disappointed, to say the least," said moderator Brian Lee, who noted Crockatt's campaign had indicated Wednesday as their preference of three possible dates for the all-candidates debate, put on by the Calgary Leadership Forum.

Lee said organizers got a call from Crockatt's campaign Tuesday at 4 p.m. to say she would be attending the birthday party instead.

The other four candidates, including Liberal Kent Hehr, the NDP's Jillian Ratti, the Green Party's Thana Boonlert, and Libertarian William Hatch, spent the evening answering a series of questions submitted from the audience of more than 100 people.

Each candidate had just one minute to respond to each



Clockwise from top left: Calgary Centre Liberal candidate Kent Hehr, NDP candidate Jillian Ratti, Libertarian candidate William Hatch, and Green Party candidate Thana Boonlert speak Wednesday night at a debate organized by the Calgary Leadership Forum. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

question, leading to a large volume of thoughts on a wide variety of topics.

Hehr deviated from the field particularly when asked about Bill C-51, the anti-terrorism legislation passed by the previous Conservative government and widely criticized by civil liberties groups for giving too much surveillance power to authorities.

While every other candidate said they wanted to see it repealed outright, Hehr said his position, as a member of a "mature party," was that some aspects ought to be maintained, others scrapped, and a "sunset clause" added.

On health care, Ratti, who is

We are disappointed, to say the least.

Moderator Brian Lee on Conservative candidate Joan Crockatt's absence

a physician, came out strongly in favour of national pharmacare.

"It saves us money by buying in bulk," she said of a prescription-drug plan for all Canadians.

Boonlert agreed, noting the Green Party has specifically

called for a national pharmacare plan in its platform.

Hatch went the other way, saying health care needs to be decentralized in order to cut down on the cost of its bureaucracy.

Hehr, for his part, said the country would do well to have a prime minister "who meets with the premiers every once in a while" to actually discuss health care, a provincial responsibility.

All four candidates also spoke in favour of electoral reform, and said their parties would ditch the first-past-the-post system that Canada currently employs.

The election is Oct. 19.

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Carl Holst, Sales Manager of Stampede Toyota, just announced plans to hold a One dollar used car and truck sales event **Taking place, only on Saturday August 29, 2015.** According to Mr. Holst record sales from the last few months have resulted in an overstock of trade-ins. "In the last three months our sales have increased at a tremendous rate", Holst said. "Now, we must reduce the number of cars and trucks on our used lot to a more manageable number. During this \$1 sale every used car and truck will be sold for hundreds or thousands below its original price." Mr. Holst said. "In fact, cars that normally sell for five to eight thousand dollars will be sold for three to five thousand," Mr. Holst said. "Our customers will find these prices even lower than at wholesale auctions."

Auction bidding often inflates the true value of a car so you pay more. Here every car is on sale, first come first served and no bidding. It's the perfect opportunity to get a

good quality used car at the lowest price possible, including cars for only One dollar. **All cars will be on display at Stampede Toyota on Barlow Trail, 2 blocks North of the Trans Canada Highway.** At 8:30 am all vehicles will be opened so that buyers may inspect the vehicles for one hour before the sale begins Saturday at

One of Calgary's largest Toyota certified used vehicle dealers is overstocked and is forced to sell used cars and trucks for as low as \$1, Saturday August 29, 2015 during a one-day sale event.

9:00am when the prices are posted on the windshield you will be given the first opportunity to purchase the vehicle at the sale price. This innovative approach to selling used vehicles will make it easy and quick for anybody in the market for a good used vehicle to get a great car or truck at a very low price with no hassle.

"Wholesale buyers will be represented

to take trade-ins during the sale," Mr. Holst said. "We also have three business managers who will help buyers arrange low-cost financing. We've got over \$10 Million Dollars in inventory to choose from. Our total inventory will be close to 600 new and used cars and trucks. We want to remind everyone that this is a **one-day sale** only. When our inventory has been reduced, we will remove the sale prices and return to normal operations. Since we are a local business we would like to give back to the community," Mr. Holst said. "We would rather allow local people to buy these overstocked vehicles than wholesale them at an auction." All cars will be reduced every hour and there will be 8 cars that will be reduced every hour until they get to \$1. These special \$1 sale cars are in a separate section at the front of the dealership. Due to the volume of sales during this event, please no telephone inquiries.

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New Calgary buildings, like this one under construction in Saddle Ridge, won't be late, according to the CBE. AARON CHATHA/METRO

New schools are still on schedule

EDUCATION

Board eyeing 2016 open, but Edmonton is facing problem



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Planned new Calgary schools are still slated to open in the fall of 2016, despite challenges and delays for their capital city counterparts.

Just one of four Edmonton Catholic schools scheduled to open next year will be ready for the start of school next fall. The new schools were part of the provincial school announce-

ments in 2014 and 2015.

In Calgary, it's a stark contrast, as new school developments are scheduled to open for the next school year.

"All the CBE schools are currently on track," said Megan Geyer, media relations for the CBE.

The Calgary Board of Education will be opening 14 new schools in the fall. The Calgary Catholic School District has five schools scheduled to be opening up in the 2016 school year.

Most are on track to open with the school year, but some projects have yet to narrow down a more exact date.

"Construction can sometimes be fluid and change, but those are the dates we're looking at," said Karen Ryhorchuk, senior communications

specialist with the Catholic School District. "As construction gets going, we'll have a better idea what the month and date would be when that school will be open."

In Edmonton, two of the school development delays were due to methane gas found on project sites.

For the CBE, two projects were delayed early this year. West Springs Cougar Ridge Middle School and Cranston Middle School were originally planned to be starter schools.

When they were upgraded to fully built schools, construction goals were shifted from September 2016 to January 2017.

Both the CBE and Catholic School District said they post regular updates to projects on their respective websites.

POLICE

Shooting victim known for alleged drug-related offences

Metro has learned that the victim of a weekend shooting was known to police and had an alleged criminal past involving drugs.

In court documents obtained by Metro, David Quach is listed as the accused in a 2014 provincial trial. According to the documents, he was charged with "possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and possession of proceeds of crime."

Court documents show that police said they found 77.3 grams of cocaine in Quach's possession at the time of his arrest.

The judge in the case ultimately found police had violated two charter rights during Quach's arrest and was therefore unable to find him guilty.

Police confirmed Wednesday that Quach was, in fact, known to police.

Quach died Saturday after

he was gunned down in his car in the community of Monterey Park.

Staff Sgt. Doug Andrus said police responded to a call Saturday night of multiple gunshots, and an injured man on a driveway of the 7000 block of California Boulevard NE.

Andrus said police have one man in custody in relation to the shooting and that charges are pending.

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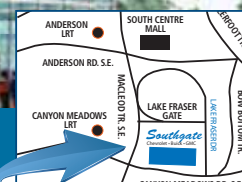
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Performers spice up Olympic Plaza

EXPO LATINO

Argentine duo sizzles with Buenos Aires' famed tango



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

After a 15-hour flight from their home in Buenos Aires, where Argentine tango was born, Fabian and Roxana Belmonte arrived in Calgary to kick off the 19th annual Expo Latino.

The duo, known as Tango de Oro, performed for a crowd at Olympic Plaza on Wednesday, giving a sneak peek of the festival that runs Aug. 28 to 30 at Prince's Island Park.

"We are very happy to be here

at a Spanish legacy festival," said Fabian. "Hopefully people will enjoy the show and we can transmit all the love and passion that we have to show you guys through the dance, through the culture and make a bridge between Spanish and Anglo culture."

Carmen Galvez, artistic director of the Hispanic Arts Society, said the festival has grown over the years, with more inter-

national artists than ever joining this year.

"Now, the artists are calling us," she said. "It's really nice that the cowboy city, Calgary, is really famous for Latin talent."

With international artists from the Dominican Republic, Colombia and Chile, and food vendors with dishes from 10 Latin regions, Galvez said Expo Latino is like "a getaway for the weekend to a Latin destination."



Colombian band Bendito Parche JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

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CALGARY QUEST

Special-needs kids saved from strike



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The Alberta government has stepped in to prevent a strike at a Calgary school for children with special needs.

A dispute inquiry board has been established to assist the Calgary Quest Children's Society and the UFCW Local 401 union in negotiations.

Tom Hesse, UFCW executive director of labour relations, said they're happy with the decision and have been trying to avoid a strike that could affect the students.

"We wrote to the premier, the minister of labour and the minister of education and asked for government intervention," Hesse said. "We were due to go out tomorrow (Thursday) morning. They certainly intervened at the 11th hour."

Angela Rooke, executive director of Calgary Quest Children's Society, echoed that statement.

"I'm just glad the government did step in and postpone a strike so our students and staff can start school as scheduled."

Lori Sigurdson, minister of jobs, skills, training and labour, said she had been watching the dispute closely and thought the

situation had reached a point at which the government should act.

Both parties now have 60 days to reach a settlement. As the board was established before a strike or lockout had begun, neither the union nor the employer can take such actions until the board process is complete.

Local 401 says the staff is worried about job security in the face of precarious employment, unfair dismissals and alleged nepotism.

"And the third issue is, well: what am I getting paid for this disaster?" said Hesse. "Am I getting paid enough to put up with this?"

Rooke said she is ready to go back to the table and work out the issues.



Jobs minister Lori Sigurdson.
THE CANADIAN PRESS



IN BRIEF

Two killed in highway crash between car and swather

Two people were killed near Foremost, Alta., in a collision involving a car and a heavy farm machine.

A 72-year-old man and a 76-year-old woman were killed when their car hit a swather that was protruding into the lane, RCMP from Bow Island said.

The driver of the swather was treated for minor injuries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hate-crime charges laid after cabbie threatened

Police have charged a 24-year-old woman with a hate crime after a Calgary cab driver was threatened with bodily harm or death.

Police say the incident took place on July 12 of last year.

A suspect was arrested on Aug. 20.

Brittany Maryanne Bachinsky was released on a promise to appear in court on Oct. 1.

METRO

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HEALTH

Smoky haze to last next few days: AHS



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Calgary's smoky situation — and the health risks that come with the poor air quality — is set to fluctuate over the next few days, said AHS medical officer Jason Cabaj.

The city has been enveloped in a thick, odorous haze as a result of wildfires burning in the

northwest United States and in southern British Columbia.

"Very quickly, Calgary is going to go from the low-risk range to very-high throughout the next few days," he said.

So far, Cabaj said AHS has received 50 smoke-related calls to 811 — its Health Link line — since Monday morning to 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Compared to what the emergency department at hospitals normally see, he said the walk-

in rate from those with cardiac and respiratory problems has increased by 20 per cent.

However, Cabaj said AHS can't confirm that those numbers are a result from the smoke.

Environment Canada Meteorologist Bill McMurtry said the smoke will likely remain until the end of the weekend or into next Monday, as soon as the winds in the upper atmosphere change.

"We should see a switch in

the winds, which should then redirect a lot of that smoke," he said.

AHS is warning Calgarians to be cautious of the air quality and is asking people to minimize their exposure.

"Anytime people can do something to get less smoke in their lungs, we recommend that," Cabaj said, adding wood smoke is particularly bad because the particles tend to be small and penetrate the lungs deeply.



Pollutants in Calgary's sooty atmosphere may be particularly problematic for animals with respiratory or eye issues.

METRO/FILE

A wheeze of tainted air

ADVISORY

Poor conditions putting family pets at risk



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The appearance of the sun through the city's smoky air conditions might be breathtaking for some Calgarians, but for pets that's the sign of a serious respiratory issue.

The Calgary Humane Society is warning Calgarians to keep their pets indoors and limit walks until the air quality improves.

"We're advising people to limit that activity," said Sage McIntosh, manager of communications. "Especially breeds that have shorter snouts, like pugs and Boston terriers. They're already prone to respiratory issues, they might be more sensitive to air quality concerns."

The poor air can cause lung and eye irritation and puts pets with asthma at a heightened risk.

Luckily, several Calgary veterinary hospitals are saying residents have been pretty smart about taking care of their pets in this weather.

"We've been seeing a few, certainly a few more eye issues," said Wendy McClelland with Vets to Go. "But mostly, Calgarians are pretty good at looking after their dogs."

Veterinarian Marie Holowaychuk with Western Veterinary said it can be particularly difficult for pet owners with smaller spaces.

"It's pretty hard for those of us who live in an apartment building and you have to take your pet outside for a walk, to use the bathroom," said Holowaychuk. "You're sort of restricted in you have to be allowed to take them outside. My recommendation to those people is to definitely keep the walks shorter than you normally would."

She says limit walks to early morning or late evening when conditions are a bit better. Also limit the amount of smoky air that gets into your home, as other animals, like cats, birds and rabbits are also susceptible to air pollutants.

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Pic a day keeps despair away

HILLHURST-SUNNYSIDE

Photographer shoots home base after loss of life's work

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

A Calgary photographer is putting the focus on his own community — literally — and undertaking a hefty, year-long commitment.

It's called #Sunnyside365, and as the name suggests, local photographer Ara Shimoon is taking a photo a day within the Hillhurst and Sunnyside communities.

"Believe it or not, shooting one photo a day, it becomes its own challenge," Shimoon said.

"The farther I have gone into it, the easier it has been, because I can show this body of work."

Shimoon turned devastation into opportunity. He decided to start the year-long project after losing his life's work — all contained on a hard drive that crashed beyond repair.

"Back in April, I had this catastrophic hardware failure of my computer. I ended up losing eight years of photography and graphic design, so I figured that rather than pining for the lost hard drive ... I'd just get right back into it and keep shooting photos," Shimoon said. "I wanted to give myself a theme, as it were, a reason to get out of bed and do work."

Now, between his photography summer camp and shifting to become a teacher at SAIT, he spends his spare time meeting community members to learn about their stories and snap one shot a day.

Jessica Clark, communications lead with the Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Centre, said the project first caught her eye over Twitter.

66

I wanted to give myself ... a reason to get out of bed and do work.

Ara Shimoon

"Sunnyside has been such a strong community and has such a close-knit vibe, so it actually didn't surprise me that this project came out of this community," Clark said. "There's been some people he's profiled that I had no idea existed in the area."

Shimoon said one of the things the project has taught him so far is the intricate history of his neighbourhood — the people and stories surprise him — especially when he runs into third-generation Hillhurst-Sunnyside residents.

"There's so many interesting people," Shimoon said. "This neighbourhood really is its own village."

Pictured are three of Ara Shimoon's #Sunnyside365 photos. More can be found by visiting his blog at glorified.ca. CONTRIBUTED

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Eccentric storefront finally opens up



Kayla Schimbaschi of Uptown 7th JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

ART GALLERY

Manager hopes people take the leap of faith



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Known for its bubble-blowing acts, chalk musings and occasional street performances,

the quirky storefront known as Uptown 7th in downtown Calgary has finally opened its doors to the public.

If you manage to stumble into the space — located on 7 Avenue by the 1 Street SE LRT station — you'll notice Uptown 7th is unlike your typical art gallery.

Once inside — amid the art hanging along the gallery's walls — you'll find vintage furniture, knick-knacks and other

collectables scattered across the space.

Straying away from sterile themes, Uptown 7th's manager Kayla Schimbaschi said the space provides a more comfortable, relaxed vibe.

"Art galleries tend to be cold and barren with stuff on the walls," she said. "So, we wanted to do something that would be a lot more comfortable for people to be in."

Located in the Delamere

block — an area that isn't known for being pretty — Schimbaschi said she hopes people take a leap of faith and stroll down the area to check out the space.

Uptown 7th owner Jonathan Sunstrum echoed that, saying he and Schimbaschi clean the street regularly to make the area feel more welcome.

"I like to think that we're more than just a business," he said. "This is a public space — it

should be treated as such and not a discarded throwaway."

When the storefront opened about three years ago, Sunstrum said he was told the space would only last six months.

Well, it's been longer than that, he said, adding he plans to keep the place going for as long as he can.

"I thought this space would only be a couple of pages in my life," he said. "But now it's become a complete chapter."

CONDITIONAL SENTENCE

Mountie pleads guilty to firearms charges

An Alberta RCMP officer has been handed a conditional sentence after pleading guilty to firearms charges.

Const. Stephen Hudson was charged in May with the unlawful possession of a Bushmaster assault rifle — which is a restricted weapon — and the careless storage of the assault rifle, as well as other offences.

Hudson appeared in a Sherwood Park court Wednesday and pleaded guilty to five of

10 charges, including unsafe storage of a firearm, possession of an unlicensed weapon and possession of an unlawful device.

He received a conditional sentence including nine months house arrest and nine months of living under a curfew.

Hudson, who is 49, says that he has tendered his resignation from the RCMP after nine years of service. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Leaders debate budget

ECONOMY

Parties trade barbs over fitness as fiscal managers

Canada's three main political leaders traded accusations of fiscal recklessness and promises of budget prudence Wednesday as the health of the economy dominated the federal election campaign for a third straight day.

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, trying to carve out a place for his party on the mantle of economic management, promised that a New Democrat government would deliver a balanced budget next year, no matter what.

Easier said than done, countered Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, who suggested — even as he billed his party as a champion of fiscal responsibility — that balancing the books would likely be a matter of years.

All of which left Conservative Leader Stephen Harper saying what he's been saying all along:



The NDP's Tom Mulcair high-fives a girl in a coffee shop in Stratford, Ont., on Wednesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

the budget is balanced now but won't be for long if either the NDP or Liberals form the next federal government.

Asked during a campaign event in London, Ont., whether an NDP government would run a deficit, Mulcair was unequivocal: "We are not entertaining any thought of that."

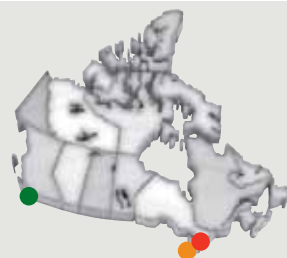
However, doing away with

the Conservative income-splitting measure won't produce enough extra revenue to cover his spending promises, Mulcair conceded.

He said he will soon detail how he will stay in the black while implementing new programs, including an ambitious promise of a million child-care spaces within eight years.



WHERE THE LEADERS ARE TODAY



● **Justin Trudeau** will be in Toronto and Oakville, Ont.

● **Tom Mulcair** will be in Ontario: Toronto, St. Catharines and Brantford.

● **Elizabeth May** will be in Oak Bay, B.C.

Stephen Harper's itinerary was unavailable.

"We're going to have a fully costed program," Mulcair said. "Everybody will get to see what the NDP plan is every step of the way." His details will also have to cover a new promise of a \$40-million tax credit for businesses investing in innovative research, which he promised Wednesday.

Trudeau was electioneering on the outskirts of Toronto, an area that looms as a key election battleground. He promised to give teachers a tax break on school supplies they buy with their own money — and dis-

missed the Conservative government's claims that the federal budget is already balanced. "We are in deficit now," he said.

Balancing the books will be a Liberal priority, he added, but it won't be easy. "How many years it takes to balance that budget is what we will be talking about in the coming days and weeks."

Harper was in friendly territory in rural eastern Ontario, where he promised to spend \$200 million over seven years to expand broadband Internet access for remote areas.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

NDP poised to win 174 seats, new poll finds

The New Democratic Party has the backing of an unprecedented majority in the House of Commons, a new poll has found.

The Forum Research poll for Torstar News Service projects the NDP has enough support to win 174 seats in the Oct. 19 election. Justin Trudeau's Liberals now sit in second place with 30 per cent support, while Stephen Harper's Conservatives are losing support and have the backing of just 23 per cent of the 1,440 Canadians surveyed.

The poll, conducted on Sunday and Monday, may have captured anger at the revelations emerging from testimony of Conservative officials at Sen. Mike Duffy's fraud trial, as well as the recent stock market scare, which has heightened talk of a faltering economy, said Forum Research president Lorne Bozinoff.

"Maybe you could say it's a perfect storm for the Tories because they're the ones who seem to have taken this on the chin," he said. "We've said all along that if this economy goes south it's over for the Tories. They're in charge and ... they've built a lot of their campaign around being great economic managers."

Harper's campaign headaches seem to have benefitted the NDP, which now has 54 per cent support in Quebec, 41 per cent in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and 39 per cent in British Columbia.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Politicians 'screw up' with female voters: Expert



Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Finance Minister Joe Oliver's decision to give a speech at a private men's club shows just how badly politicians can "screw up" their appeal to female vot-

ers, one political expert argues.

"It's shocking to me that, even today, there are political campaigns and political leaders who don't understand the optics of choosing to alienate half of the population of Canada," said Siri Agrell, vice-president of communications firm Pilot PMR.

It follows a week of candidates'

flat-footed responses to women's issues that have cropped up on the campaign trail.

Earlier this week, Green Party Leader Elizabeth May's platform was called "anti-feminist," forcing the party to make changes. A debate dedicated to women has also been cancelled after Prime Minister Stephen Har-

per and the NDP's Tom Mulcair bowed out.

"The timing couldn't be more superb for the opposition and worse for the Prime Minister," said Janni Aragon, a feminist political scientist at the University of Victoria. "In terms of optics, not good."

The finance minister's men's

club controversy reinforces the public's view of the Conservatives as the party "aligned with elite, white male experience," Agrell said.

The optics aren't good for Mulcair either, Agrell said. But, he's done a better job of talking about policies, such as child care, that appeal to women.

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**Michael
Woods**
Metro | Ottawa

Canada may have slapped sanctions on Russia, but there's apparently one thing we still need Moscow for: space bracelets.

Newly released documents show the Canadian Space Agency planned to buy unique bracelets from a Russian state-funded organization earlier this year.

The agency needed the devices for a Canadian-led science experiment to measure the cardiovascular health of astronauts on the International Space Station.

Canada has taken a tough stance against Russian President Vladimir Putin's government since its incursion into Crimea. It has levied increasingly strict



Stephen Harper has been no friend of President Vladimir Putin since Russia annexed Crimea in 2014. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sanctions. Prime Minister Stephen Harper even told Putin to "get out of Ukraine" at a G20 conference.

But a January briefing note to then-industry-minister James Moore said the Canadian Space Agency needed to buy the bracelets from Russia because they weren't available anywhere else.

"Important Vascular Echo experiments are scheduled to start in August 2015 through the use of a unique device ('bracelet') that is produced only by the Russian Institute of BioMedical Problems," the note says. "No alternative provider exists."

Metro obtained the document under the Access to Information Act. It goes on to say there was consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, which resulted in an assessment that the bracelets would fall under a special exception.

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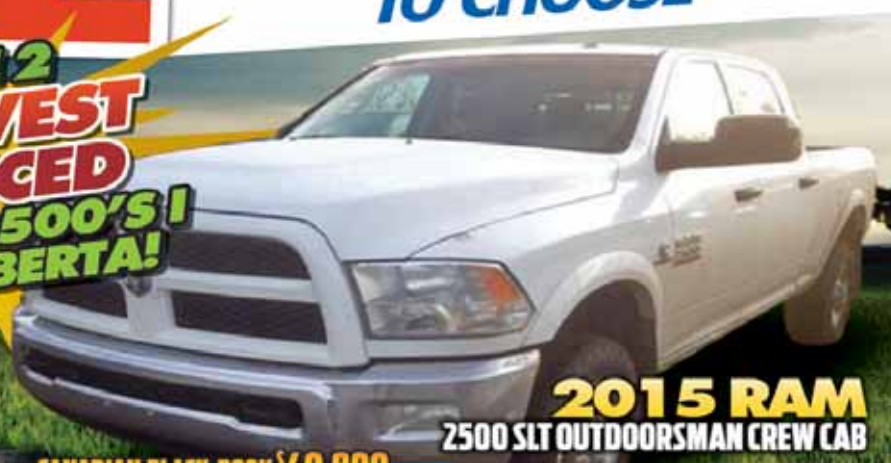
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Volunteers from lowernine.org help rebuild damaged homes in the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans, La. The area was one of the most devastated areas of the city following a levee breach during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The 10th anniversary of Katrina, considered the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history, is Saturday, Aug. 29. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES



SPECIAL FEATURE

Ten years after Hurricane Katrina, a Canadian woman heads a small non-profit still working to rebuild homes in New Orleans' worst-hit neighbourhood. Metro's **Rosemary Westwood** reports from the Lower Ninth Ward.

Project Grace and Mercy

This is the second in a three-part series on New Orleans' ongoing struggles ahead of the 10th anniversary of Katrina.

It's only 10 a.m., and already it's dripping, sweltering hot — the kind of heat that makes you wonder why you put on a clean shirt at all.

Errol Joseph goes through three or four a day, working on his home in New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward, a community made famous by catastrophic flooding after the levees failed in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Joseph, 64, is getting into his van when I arrive early one morning. He's taking a rest in the shaded driver's seat before heading to the Home Depot for supplies.

His house was heavily damaged in flooding that left 100 per cent of the neighbourhood uninhabitable. And 10 years later, he's still rebuilding.

Around him, volunteers in purple T-shirts cut tile, paint doorways and tape ceilings. Some are from France, some from other parts of the U.S. All are offering free labour through a small non-profit called lowernine.org.

Executive director Laura Paul was living in Montreal when Hurricane Katrina hit on Aug. 29, 2005. In January of 2006, she stopped in New Orleans as part of a road trip, intending to volunteer for a few days. She never left.



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD/METRO

"Laura has been on my side through thick and thin."

Errol Joseph, Lower Ninth Ward resident

Paul, 44, started out with Emergency Communities, a charity formed in the wake of Katrina, living in a tent in nearby St. Bernard Parish for nine months. She was a founding board member for lowernine.org, created in late 2006 with the realization that at some point house gutting would need to give way to house rebuilding.

"Katrina did not discriminate," she says her voice rising a few decibels. "It's true. Eighty per cent of the city flooded." She pauses. "Disasters don't discriminate — recoveries do. That's an absolute reality."

A reality borne out by a study, released Monday by Louisiana State University, that found the

black population has declined since Katrina while the white population has increased, and white median income is more than double that of blacks, and has grown three times as fast.

The Lower Ninth is a stark microcosm of the inequality. While 79 per cent of New Orleans' overall population has returned, the figure in the Lower Ninth — once a dense community of mostly black homeowners — is 36.7 per cent.

Joseph was born and bred on this block of the Lower Ninth, and he points out the lots where his neighbours used to live: Miss Elsie and Mr. Jesse, Reverend and Mrs. Sutton, Lady Dora, Mr. Alexander, the Gilmores, and the Simmons.

It'll have taken 10 years by the time he moves home (he hopes) for Thanksgiving. He recounts a decade-long maze of paperwork, meetings, damage estimates and mixed messages from government agencies tasked with residential rebuilding. The process has caused his thick black curls to grey, his weight to balloon 100 pounds.

"I'm exhausted," he says. "We have exhausted my retirement, my wife's retirement, our coffee cans," he says. He lists the friends he owes money; the welder, the guy who installed the electricity pole on his property, the guy who helped him raise his house to meet the required height guidelines.

Joseph got hooked up with lowernine.org in 2009, and since then "Laura has been on my side through thick and thin. I started to give up several times. Laura would say, 'No, we going, we going.'"

Joseph's is a story of bureaucratic chaos that makes his home a testament to both a disaster, and a miracle. He calls it Project Grace and Mercy.

Certainly, there aren't many other construction sites in the neighbourhood.

While rents across the city have soared post-Katrina and housing prices are rising, land

value in the Lower Ninth has stayed low, first because the city originally decided part of the area would become green space, and then because of the slow recovery. There was even a failed plan last year to sell lots for \$100 each.

Operating on an annual budget of just \$149,000, lowernine.org has built 77 houses — only 23 fewer than Brad Pitt's much better-known and -funded Make it Right foundation. It is a staggeringly lean organization and it typically provides only labour. Homeowners need to provide building materials.

Lowernine.org isn't perfect. Most of the volunteers need guidance and supervision, sometimes there's a language barrier, and some only stay a week or two. Then a whole new batch needs training.

But I met half a dozen while I was there, and many were repeat volunteers. Graham Hyde, a sardonic 72-year-old from England via France, is finishing his second three-month stint. Vicky Maguire, 32, from Wales, is using her two weeks of holidays to come back a second time. Gregor Ernst, 20, came for seven months from Philadelphia last year, and returned to mark Katrina's 10-year anniversary and help finish the childhood home of one resident he's close with, and see another finally move home.

Paul fields daily calls from residents looking for help, and sees no end to the work, "as long as I

+ PUSH FOR \$50K

#50StatesCampaign

Lowernine.org is trying to raise \$50,000 — \$1,000 in each U.S. state, plus \$1,000 in Canada, too. So far, \$30,000 has been raised. You can donate online at lowernine.org. The campaign ends Sept. 5.

can keep the lights on."

New Orleans, in all its grit and joie de vivre, is Paul's home now.

"You wander down the street and there's a guy in a prom dress riding a bicycle and there's a naked woman and they're all drinking mai tais," she says, and laughs. "It is a passionate and spectacular place to live."

In the midst of efforts to rebuild this community, lowernine.org has created one of its own — of eager international volunteers and determined local residents reclaiming their homes. Joseph says the volunteers who've helped him know they're always welcome at his new, old house.

"I get each one of them to fill out a card about their stay here, and they can make you cry," he says. "You get to be family."

Tomorrow: The gentrification of a troubled city



MUZI LI/CONTRIBUTED

"Disasters don't discriminate — recoveries do. That's an absolute reality."

Laura Paul, lowernine.org executive director

Killings seen on live TV

TRAGEDY

Gunman also posted video of shootings on social media

A TV reporter and cameraman were shot to death on live television Wednesday by their former colleague, a journalist who also recorded himself carrying out the killings and then posted the video on social media.

The gunman, who was fired in 2013 from WDBJ in Roanoke, Va., fled the scene and went online, posting the video on Facebook and Twitter. He also reportedly faxed a 23-page manifesto and "suicide note" to ABC News, describing himself as a "human powder keg" that was "just waiting to go BOOM!!!!"

Vester Lee Flanagan II, 41, who appeared on WDBJ as Bryce Williams, had evidently been planning the attack for some time, authorities said. As he fled, he switched vehicles, picking up a rental car he had previously reserved at an airport. Troopers caught up with him hours later



Reporter Alison Parker, left, and cameraman Adam Ward were fatally shot during an on-air interview Wednesday in Moneta, Va. COURTESY OF WDBJ-TV VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

and hundreds of miles away after he fatally shot himself and ran off the road.

The live spot by reporter Alison Parker and cameraman Adam Ward was nothing out of the ordinary: They were interviewing a local official at an outdoor shopping mall for a



Things were spiralling out of control.

W.Q. "Bill" Overton Jr., Franklin County Sheriff

tourism story. Then, at about 6:45 a.m., morning show viewers saw Parker suddenly scream and run, crying "Oh my God," as she fell. Ward fell, too, and the camera he had been holding on his shoulder captured a fleeting image of the suspect holding a handgun.

WDBJ quickly switched back to the anchor at the station, her eyes large and jaw dropping as she said, "OK, not sure what happened there." The station later went live again, reporting on their own staff as the story developed.

Parker and Ward died at the scene after the gunman fired about 15 shots. Their interview subject, Vicki Gardner, was in stable condition later Wednesday after surgery for her wounds.

Video posted on Bryce Williams' Twitter account and Facebook page hours later showed an outstretched arm holding the handgun. The shooter walked up to the victims and stood a few feet away, but with all three in the midst of the live TV interview, none seemed to notice. The gunman waited until Parker's camera was pointed at Ward, and then fired repeatedly.

The shooting happened around 6:45 a.m. at Bridgewater Plaza in Franklin County, as Parker interviewed Gardner about the upcoming 50th anniversary festivities for Smith Mountain Lake, a local tourism destination. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Colorado theatre shooter sentenced to life in prison

The man who opened fire on a packed Colorado movie theatre was ordered Wednesday to serve life in prison plus 3,318 years.

Judge Carlos A. Samour Jr. ordered James Holmes, 28, to serve 12 consecutive life sentences without the possibility of parole, one for each of the people he killed in the July 20, 2012 attack. He added 3,312 years for 70 convictions of attempted murder, and six years for an explosives charge.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspected train gunman facing terrorism charges

The suspect in a foiled attack on a high-speed train in France is facing terrorism charges, the Paris prosecutor's office confirmed Wednesday.

Authorities say Ayoub El-Khazzani planned to unleash carnage among hundreds of passengers. El-Khazzani, 26, has denied having terrorism plans, saying he stumbled on a bag of weapons and decided to use them to rob passengers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OUTSOURCING

No more Oreos for Trump

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump repeated his claim Tuesday evening that he would stop eating Oreos, citing the cookie maker's decision to close a plant in Chicago and move it to Mexico.

"I'm never eating Oreos again," Trump said, before adding that he would consider it if he could find some that were made in the U.S.

Trump's claim is partly true.

Oreo's parent company Mondelez International Inc. announced its decision last month to invest \$130 million in building four new production lines at a plant in Mexico, which will replace nine older production lines at its Chicago plant.

The number of jobs at the Chicago plant will go from about 1,200 to about 600, said Laurie Guzzinati, a Mondelez representative, but the plant in Chicago will remain open.

Guzzinati noted that Oreos continue to be made in some U.S. plants, including in New Jersey, Oregon and Virginia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



'DUST LADY' 9-11 SURVIVOR DIES OF CANCER Marcy Borders, the New Jersey woman captured in an iconic photo taken after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City, died Monday at her home in Bayonne, N.J., after a battle with stomach cancer, her daughter said Wednesday. Borders, who was 42, had been working on the 81st floor inside one of the Twin Towers in the attack, but she managed to escape the building. STAN HONDA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES FILE; INSET: REENA ROSE SIBAYAN/THE JERSEY JOURNAL VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SERBIA

Migrants thwart razor fence

Clambering over the razor-wire fence or crawling under it, migrants surged Wednesday across the Serbian border into Hungary. Then they jostled to formally enter the country so they could quickly leave it, heading toward more prosperous European Union nations on a desperate quest to escape war and poverty.

So far the Hungarian border fence, which is being hastily built to keep the migrants out, consists of three layers of razor wire along the country's 174-kilometre border with Serbia. But it's hardly a formidable barrier.

One group of migrants, including women and children, crawled under it Wednesday, using blankets, sleeping bags, jackets and a stick to raise the wire. As a police car approached, they dashed through a field.

These migrants are following the Balkans route, from Turkey to Greece by sea, up north to Macedonia by bus or foot, by train through Serbia and then walking the last few miles into EU member Hungary. That avoids the more dangerous Mediterranean Sea route from North Africa to Italy, where dozens of bodies were found Wednesday in the hull of a smugglers' boat that was rescued off

Libya's northern coast.

Once inside the 28-nation EU, most migrants seek to reach richer nations such as Germany, The Netherlands or Sweden.

Over 10,000 migrants, including many women with babies and small children, have crossed into Serbia over the past few days and headed toward Hungary.

The migrants' goal is to cross without being spotted by Hungarian border police so they will not be detained and sent to Hungarian asylum centres,

where they are fingerprinted. The migrants don't want to go through the asylum process in financially struggling Hungary.

By Wednesday morning, 1,302 migrants had already been detained at Hungary's southern border with Serbia, according to Karoly Papp, Hungary's national police chief. Police said 2,533 migrants were detained Tuesday, up from 2,093 on Monday, with the numbers setting records nearly every day.

Hungary is still scrambling to react. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CORRECTION NOTICE

South Pointe Toyota

In the Aug 24 edition of Metro Calgary, please note that the 2014 TOYOTA CAMRY SE STK#P501348A should have been listed with a price of \$28,998 or BW payments of \$189 and not the advertised price of \$12,998 or BW payments of \$189.

We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



'Let's end the beef'

MCWHOPPER

Hybrid of signature burgers would promote peace

Burger King is hoping to set aside its rivalry with McDonald's Corp., at least for a day.

The fast-food chain is reaching out to its longtime competitor with an unusual proposal: create a hybrid of each company's signature burger — Big Mac and Whopper — and then sell it at a pop-up restaurant in Atlanta for one day. The profits would go to an organization that promotes world peace.

"We're being completely transparent with our approach because we want them to take it seriously," said Fernando Machado, senior vice-president for global brand management at Burger King, in a statement. "It would be amazing if McDonald's agrees to do this."

Burger King created a website, mcwhopper.com, that includes a proposed recipe for the McWhopper. The sandwich has six ingredients from the Big Mac (including special sauce, all-beef patty and cheese) and six from the Whopper (flame-grilled patty, onion, pickles, etc.).

In a response posted on Facebook on Wednesday, McDonald's chief executive officer Steve Easterbrook said his company would "be in touch" about the burger proposal.

"We love the intention but think our two brands could do something bigger to make a difference," he said. "We commit to raise awareness worldwide, perhaps you'll join us in a meaningful global effort?"

Burger King says it thinks the McWhopper can help promote the efforts of Peace One Day.

"As two of the world's largest brands, we're in the perfect position to influence change," the company said in a video on the McWhopper site. "Let's end the beef." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



HEALTH VIRTUAL DUMMY TACKLES CONCUSSIONS Dartmouth College engineering graduate Quinn Connell, upper left, controls the movement of the team's Mobile Virtual Player during college football practice on Wednesday in Hanover, N.H., in an effort to avoid concussions. The school says it is the only powered device that simulates a real football player in size, weight, agility and speed. **JIM COLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

STOCK MARKET

TSX rises, indexes soar in New York

The Toronto Stock Exchange was solidly higher Wednesday, while indexes in New York soared as buyers flocked back to end a six-day slide, the longest on Wall Street in more than three years.

In Toronto, the S&P/TSX composite jumped up 230.66 points to 13,381.591 after seeing an earlier triple-digit advance evaporate into a slight loss before ramping up again in the late afternoon.

Meanwhile in New York, another afternoon surge Wednesday gave the stock market its best day in close to four years, as stocks rebounded from a week-long slump.

The three major U.S. indexes dropped six days in a row heading into Wednesday on concern

that China's economy is weaker than investors had previously thought. That was the longest market slide in more than three years.

The turnaround at least temporarily ended the bleeding that has driven investors from the market and wiped out trillions of dollars in asset values, but there was no guarantee it would put an end to the recent volatility.

Stock markets around the world have been in flux for more than a week amid deep plunges on China's main market and a decision by its central bank to devalue the yuan in a move to stimulate its slowing economy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Inside Shoppers Drugmart



Some wonder if Nova Scotia's Bluenose II ship should be docked in a museum. More tours are cancelled for steering repairs: \$700K on top of a \$20-million restoration.

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON WHAT THE PM KNEW ABOUT DUFFY



“The last thread of Harper's version is now so frayed, it speaks to his lack of an alternative explanation that he is still hanging on to it for dear life.”

By the time Mike Duffy's trial wraps up later this year, voters will already have rendered their election verdict on Stephen Harper. But regardless of whether the disgraced senator turns out to be guilty in the eye of the law, in the court of public opinion the tenuous case designed to insulate the Conservative leader from a scandal involving his closest aides has already been blown out of the water.

From the outset, accepting Harper's contention that he was unaware of the extraordinary decision of then-PMO chief of staff Nigel Wright to secretly reimburse Duffy's unallowable expenses involved a significant leap of faith.

And yet, until the latest court developments, more than a few parliamentary insiders — including veteran political journalists such as myself and, more importantly, CTV bureau chief Robert Fife who broke the story — were willing to at least entertain the notion that Harper's version of events could be true.

For one, despite the talk of an all-knowing omnipotent Prime Minister's Office, files have been known to fall through the cracks.

The fact that the PMO has its finger in virtually every government pie actually tends to make such occurrences more frequent.

An octopus does not have eyes to match its many tentacles.

As the PMO was dealing with Duffy, Wright and Harper had many other irons in the fire, including a major trade agreement with the European Union and the planning of a mid-mandate

cabinet shuffle.

And then, it was initially suggested that the loop within which Wright had operated was so small that the stratagem could have been engineered without Harper getting wind of it.

That thesis fell apart when hundreds of email exchanges between Wright, various PMO staffers and the Conservative leadership in the Senate were brought to light by the RCMP investigation.

As of that point, only a bit of chicken wire still held Harper's story together and it centred on the notion that Ray Novak, the aide most likely to have his back, was not in on the Duffy fix.

In the words of campaign spokesman Kory Teneycke, it would have been “unfathomable” in light of the close relationship between the two that Novak would not have shared the information with Harper.

Teneycke made that categorical statement just before the Duffy trial heard compelling testimony that pointed to Novak being in the loop of Wright's initial

ative.

As a result, the last thread of Harper's version is now so frayed that it speaks to his lack of an alternative explanation that he is still hanging on to it for dear life.

For to continue to accept that version is also to accept two dubious propositions.

If voters ... are content to look the other way, how can they expect future governments to think twice about fooling Canadians into believing whatever best suits their partisan purpose?

One: That Novak — Harper's handpicked replacement for Wright — never read one of the most politically sensitive admissions a PMO chief of staff has ever put in an email or, alternatively, that he did not hear about it from

those who read their mail.

Two: That his reported attendance at a meeting where the Duffy operation was discussed is a figment of the imagination of Ben Perrin, the former legal counsel to the PMO who testified to it under oath.

It has been argued that the reimbursement of Duffy's expenses and the behind-the-scenes manoeuvring that attended it barely qualify as a scandal.

On the scale of the fabricated evidence pertaining to the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq offered as a rationale for the 2003 U.S.-led offensive on that country, the Duffy affair would not necessarily register.

But that still leaves voters with two questions to ponder between now and the Oct. 19 election.

If Harper's most trusted aides — many of whom are still in place — were willing to use every lever at their disposal to lie their way out of an embarrassment to the Conservative party, how far would they go to sway public opinion on a matter of central importance to the government and the country?

And if voters — upon being presented with undeniable evidence of a high-level coverup designed to mislead them — are content to look the other way, how can they expect future governments to think twice about the risks of fooling Canadians into believing whatever best serves their partisan purpose?

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

metroview

As an expatriate, I don't have the moral right to vote at home



Mike Donachie
Metro | Toronto

You're either in or you're out.

When it comes to deciding who forms a government, non-resident citizens are definitely out, and that includes me.

Here's how it works in this country: If you're Canadian and you haven't lived here for five years, you can't vote. That's it. Thank you and goodbye.

The issue became prominent in this federal campaign after the Ontario Court of Appeal decided the law should stay as is. This made Canadian actor Donald Sutherland unhappy; he resides stateside but he wants a ballot.

Sutherland argues he deserves a say because he identifies as Canadian. I disagree.

I'm a Scot and a British citizen, and I've been a permanent resident of Canada for 2-1/2 years. Despite leaving the U.K., I have a legal right to vote there in national elections until 15 years after my departure.

I don't exercise that right.

Don't misunderstand me: I know the value of it. I'm aware of the struggle by activists, across many years, to see universal suffrage established. People died to give me a great gift that I have chosen not to use.

I voluntarily abstained from voting in this spring's U.K. general election. And, last

year, when Scots cast ballots on independence from the U.K., I was denied a say due to non-residence. I agreed that was right, though it broke my heart. Scotland voted “no,” but I'm not giving my opinion. I don't live there.

And that's the point. I identify as Scottish. Anyone who knows me, and has tried to penetrate my accent, knows I'm about as Scottish as it gets. I'm engaged and informed and I miss the place. But I won't vote there.

In the '80s, Margaret Thatcher's government introduced ballots for expatriates even if they'd been gone for 20 years. It's reasonable to assume she expected to pick up votes from wealthy expats. The cynicism of that appalls me.

If you permanently leave a country, you should shut up. You can identify as anything, be it Scottish, Cornish or Viking, but if you decide to be resident elsewhere you stop being invested in that place, whether it's immediately, after five years or after 15. I think that connection starts diminishing within months, not years, and, if you vote, it's like you're voting from a past life.

A legal right is not a moral right and, unless you live with the consequences of an election, there in that place, it's wrong to interfere.

That applies in Canada, I would argue. Like Donald Sutherland, I don't have a vote here. But I do live here.

And, one day, if I gain Canadian citizenship, I will vote with pride.

THE MICROTREND: The mess on the moon



For a mere \$12,000 US — not much more than a typical funeral — San Francisco-based company Elysium Space will lay some of your mortal remains, as ashes, to rest on the moon. The announcement of the service, released with great fanfare this week, doesn't mention concerns about polluting a celestial body that does not belong to us with earthly germs and debris. After all, there's still quite a lot of garbage, including dozens of bags of human excrement, left on the lunar surface from the Apollo missions. SOURCE: CBC

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'I'm just running to stay alive'



Author Lawrence Hill
LISA SAKULENSKY

The Illegal (HarperCollins, \$34.99, Sept. 8) is Lawrence Hill's first work of fiction since his critically acclaimed novel The Book of Negroes.

The Illegal tells the story of Keita Ali. Running is all Keita's ever wanted to do. He's from Zantoroland, one of the poorest nations in the world, where running means respect. And riches, until Keita is targeted for his father's outspoken political views. He escapes into Freedom State, a wealthy island nation bent on deporting refugees. Keita can stay safe only if he keeps moving. As he trains in secret, eluding capture, the stakes keep getting higher.

Weeks earlier, after Keita's first night in Clarkson — in a forty-dollar-a-night motel that did not demand ID because he paid cash up front — he had gone running in Ruddings Park.

A jogger recognized him as being of the same Faloo ethnicity and asked him to stop. Keita did so briefly, but he didn't give his name or tell the man where he was staying. He listened, though, when the man told him not to travel in cars. Not if he wanted to avoid the immigration cops. They stopped people in cars all the time, the man said, and always demanded the national citizenship card. If you didn't have it, they detained you until they could figure out where to deport you. Some people, he said, spent years in detention centres.

Keita thanked the man and said he had to keep moving. The man asked if he could run with Keita, just for a kilometre. He hadn't run with anyone since leaving Zantoroland, he said, and he missed it. Sure, Keita said. He began running again, slowly to accommodate the fellow.

"So," the jogger said, "have you heard of ZRA?" Keita said he hadn't.

"It's Zantoroland's Refugee Association. We want the government of Freedom State to hear our voices and to stop deporting people who are found without papers." The jogger tapped his shoulder familiarly, like a friend might have done back home. "We need people in the movement."

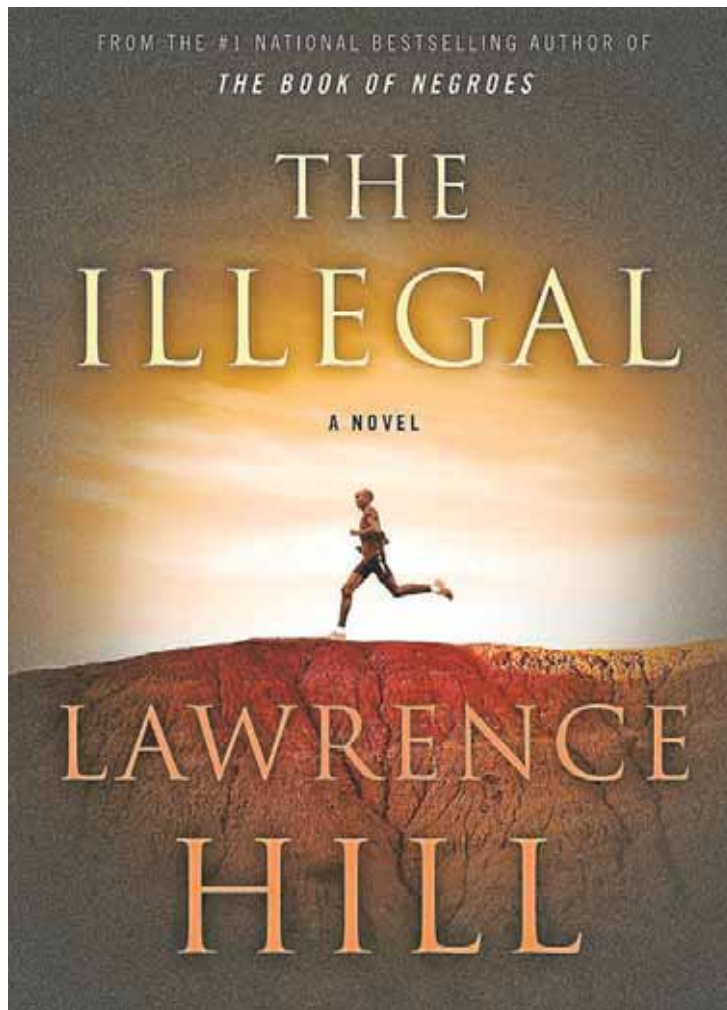
Keita nodded noncommittally.

"By the way, you run beautifully. Are you an elite marathoner?"

"I was. Now I'm just running to stay alive."

"You could be a role model for our cause."

"Sorry," Keita repeated, "but I can't help you right now." And with that, he accelerated and left the jogger behind.



Keita was heeding the advice not to travel by car. Though his muscles were aching, he was sitting at the back of a bus in the Buttersby station, waiting for it to depart for Clarkson. He had killed several hours in the pub, where he sat in a corner, facing a wall, nursing tea and shepherd's pie and hoping to avoid attention. Nobody knew his name or a thing about him, or cared if he was cold or hungry or afraid, but he feared that everyone noticed him.

Keita had boarded the bus the minute the doors opened. The less he was in public view, the better. He chose a window seat near the back. He had barely sat down when a boy — perhaps only twelve years old but travelling alone — took the seat beside him.

To take his mind off his troubles, Keita had turned on his iPod, put the buds in his ears and listened to a country song about a man with a broken heart.

*I got the gotta have you
God I want you
Don't you wanna love me blues
Wait all day for you to call my name
But baby baby baby baby
You ain't got the blues the same
No
You ain't got the same.*

Keita found it odd that here, in one of the richest nations of the world, bad grammar seemed acceptable in music. Still, the words and music were catchy, and he hummed along until a woman across the aisle gave him a nasty look. He stopped and unplugged the iPod. He had to be careful. One did not hum or sing in public in Freedom State — neither while walking around the street nor while sitting on a bus. People in this country took it as a sign of mental imbalance. To Keita, that itself was insanity.

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The odds of pairing up

Author Jon Birger blames lopsided gender ratios, not women, for bad luck on the dating front.

RELATIONSHIPS

Think Freakonomics meets Moneyball in Date-onomics, a by-the-numbers book on dating that argues advice-givers have it all wrong serving up tips for women on how to find a man.

Business journalist Jon Birger has crunched the data on hetero singlehood and blames massively off-kilter gender ratios — not whether you do or do not return his first text — for the woes of women looking for their Mr. Rights. Married 23 years with three kids, Birger took on the economics, sociology and demographics of dating to help women realize the hookup culture, a decline in marriage rates among the college educated and a dearth of marriage-worthy men willing to commit are byproducts of lopsided gender ratios.

New York City has 100,000 more women than men who are college educated and under 35, a fact not usually reported when dating-related issues are discussed in the media, Birger said. And he writes there's no gender ratio divide when it comes to

many rural versus urban areas, or small towns versus big cities.

His hope? That the book, out in September from Workman, provides some comfort to those who blame themselves.

Here's what he had to say in a recent interview:

What myths are you trying to dispel?

The message of a lot of these guides is that women are going about it all wrong. It's their fault, and my argument is it's not their fault. It's the demographics.

How did you conclude demographics never seem to be part of the conversation?

I just know a lot of single women, really wonderful, smart — they're good company — attractive women in their 30s and 40s who share with me various woes of their single lives, and the concept that the number of women in their dating market outnumber the number of men just never enters the conversation.

Where is the deficit worst?

It's a national phenomenon. Nationally, among millennials, there are four college-grad women for every three college-grad men. In fact, the lopsidedness is actually worse in some rural states like Montana and West Virginia than it is in urban states like California and New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



IN BRIEF

Everything, Everything to be adapted for big screen

The debut novel by Nicola Yoon will be made into a movie by MGM studios, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Scriptwriter J. Mills Goodloe will take on the adaptation of Everything, Everything, a YA (young adult) novel centered around a 17-year-old girl with severe combined immunodeficiency.

The disorder causes multiple allergies, which prevents her from leaving the house.

Goodloe has already adapted several novels to the silver screen, notably the 2015 drama Age of Adaline, starring Blake Lively, and The Best of Me with James Marsden and Michelle Monaghan.

Everything, Everything has been compared to other YA movies that

tackle unusual yet real-life-based issues facing young people, such as The Fault in Our Stars.

The latter film was also based on a novel, by YA author and YouTube video blogger John Green.

The book Everything, Everything will arrive in stores September 1.

The novel will be published in 22 territories and 21 different languages.

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BOOKS TO READ THIS AUTUMN

The fall publishing season can be overwhelming with its stacks of big-name authors and titles. Where does one start, when books by Margaret Atwood, Lawrence Hill and John Irving all demand reading? If you're daring, and are looking for something a little unusual, perhaps the old adage about judging a book by its cover is worth a try. Based on design (and, of course, author pedigree), here are five titles worth adding to your reading list. **SUE CARTER METRO**

Suite Francaise: Storm in June by Emmanuel Moynot

translation David Homel

In 2004, more than 60 years after she died in Auschwitz, Irene Nemirovsky's posthumous novel *Suite Francaise* became an international blockbuster.

This fall, her story about life in a French village just before the 1940 German invasion gets an illustrated adaptation from French author Emmanuel Moynot. The graphic novel is published by Vancouver's

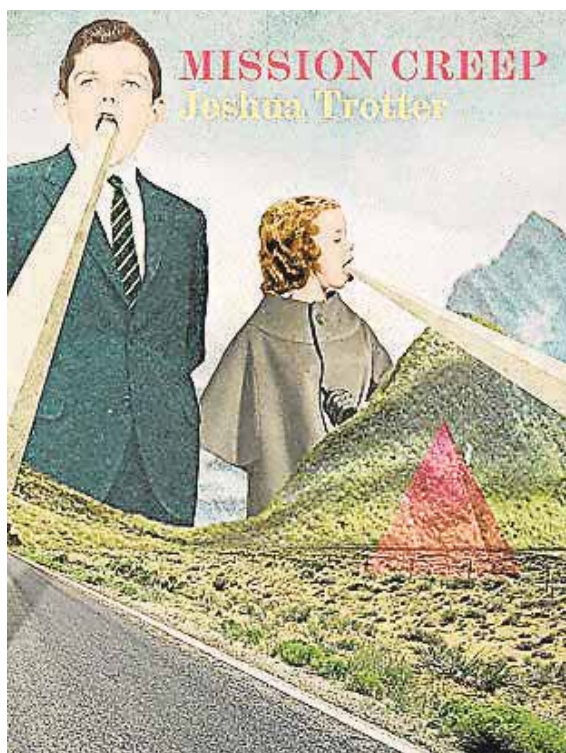


Arsenal Pulp Press, which had great success with another French translation, Julie Maroh's *Blue is the Warmest Color*.

Once They Were Hats: In Search of the Mighty Beaver by Frances Backhouse



This sociological survey of our national animal should be popular with the Suzuki set, and covers more than 15,000 years of history. Before the arrival of European fur traders and their love of fashionably warm headgear, there were more than 60 million of the sharp-toothed critters roaming around North America. Victoria writer Frances Backhouse examines our relationship with the beaver, how we nearly killed them off, and how we might successfully cohabit in the future.



Mission Creep by Joshua Trotter

If there was an award for the most disturbing yet bizarrely hilarious cover this season, Joshua Trotter's new poetry collection by Coach House Books would make the shortlist. Even more intriguing are the book's origins. As source material, Trotter manipulated or "tortured" text taken from the CIA's interrogation manual using audio-editing tools, bringing in other voices such as 1970s stuntman Evil Knievel and philosopher Hannah Arendt.

Slade House by David Mitchell

It's a modern take on a horror story, with a social-media twist. *Cloud Atlas* and *The Bone Clocks* author David Mitchell's new novel began as a series of 280 tweets about a haunted residence that acts as a refuge for its "different or lonely" tenants.

Mitchell has plans to tweet more stories from one of *Slade House*'s characters this fall, leading up to the book's release, which happens around Halloween.



This is Your Life, Harriet Chance! by Jonathan Evison

Another kind of haunting takes place in Jonathan Evison's new novel, in which 79-year-old recent widow Harriet Chance embarks on an Alaskan cruise, only to make a huge discovery about her life. Meanwhile, her dead husband keeps popping up. Evison's first three novels have been bestsellers, so expect the same for *Harriet*.



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Star takes on deWitt novel

BOOKS ON SCREEN

John C. Reilly to star in film adaptation of Canuck's book

Vancouver Island-born writer Patrick deWitt says Oscar-nominated actor John C. Reilly will star in a big-screen adaptation

of his heralded novel *The Sisters Brothers*.

deWitt said the film will be directed by acclaimed French filmmaker Jacques Audiard (*Un prophète*, *Rust and Bone*), who is also working on the screenplay.

"I'm really very happy with this team," deWitt said in a telephone interview to discuss his new novel, *Undermajordomo Minor*, which hits shelves Sept.

5.

"I think John's perfect for the role and I'm really curious to see what Jacques comes up with."

Reilly will play Eli Sisters, one of two gunslinging brothers en route to California in the gold-rush era of the 1850s.

The comic western won a Governor General's Literary Award and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize in 2011. It also won the 2012 Ste-

phen Leacock Medal for Humour and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Scotiabank Giller Prize.

It was deWitt's second novel after 2009's *Ablutions*.

"I do like the idea of a non-American telling this story that is a very American story," said deWitt, who lives in Portland, Ore. "I really admire Jacques' movies, so this is exciting for me." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

New young adult novel gets big screen treatment

The debut novel by Nicola Yoon will be made into a movie by MGM studios, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Scriptwriter J. Mills Goodloe will take on the adaptation of *Everything, Everything*, a YA (young adult) novel centred around a 17-year-old girl with severe combined

immunodeficiency — causing multiple allergies — which prevents her from leaving the house.

Everything, Everything has been compared to other YA movies that tackle unusual yet reality-based issues facing young people, such as *The Fault in Our Stars*.

The book *Everything, Everything* is out September 1. AFP



John C. Reilly will play the gunslinging brother Eli Sisters in *The Brothers Sisters*. The film is based on the novel of the same name by Canadian author Patrick deWitt. GETTY IMAGES

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GOSSIP IN BRIEF KYLIE 'FLATTERED' BY SEXY SONG, POLICE TO REVIEW UNSAFE DRIVING CHARGES**Kylie Jenner OK with Tyga song**

While the rest of us — and the Kardashian family — might have found Tyga's new track, Stimulated, which details his penchant for "penetrating" 18-year-old girlfriend Kylie Jenner, a little — um — disturbing,



it turns out Jenner herself is totally fine with the track.

Flattered, even. "Kylie actually thought that the song was cute and knew about it before it came out," a source tells Radar Online. "It is her first true love and she is very much thinking that she will be with him forever." How ... sweet? But: "There is nothing that Tyga could ever do that would make Kylie walk away from him," the source explains.

"She does not even try to argue with him because he has somehow convinced her that he is the best she will ever get, and she believes him." Sounds totally healthy, yeah. NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Manslaughter evidence reviewed

Prosecutors on Tuesday began reviewing evidence, considering whether charges

should be filed against Caitlyn Jenner in a collision that killed a woman on a coastal California highway.

The case was being examined by the Los Angeles County district attorney's major crimes division, said Greg Risling, a spokesman for the district attorney's office. There was no timetable for when prosecutors will decide whether to file charges, he said.

Authorities said Jenner

was driving a sport utility vehicle on Feb. 7 when it slammed into two cars on Pacific Coast Highway, pushing a Lexus driven by Kim Howe into oncoming traffic.

Howe, 69, died from her injuries, and her stepchildren are suing Jenner, an Olym-



pic gold medallist. Sheriff's investigators determined that Jenner, 65, was travelling at an unsafe speed for the road conditions at the time and the evidence supports a vehicular manslaughter charge, the department said last week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARRIAGE**Vergara's man gets cold feet: Source**

There may be troubling in paradise for soon-to-wed Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello, and it's reportedly all down to the groom-to-be's pre-wedding jitters. "Joe is low-key flipping out right now," a source tells Radar Online. "He said that he does not think he is ready, and all of his friends are telling him to calm down and that he is just having a case of the cold feet."

So what's the main



cause of Manganiello's gripe? The scope of the event. "Sofia's having people fly in from all over the world, and two-thirds of the guests that are coming are invited by her. Joe keeps his circle very small," the source says. NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Desperately seeking out of sitcom?**SEX IN THE CITY****Source says SJP really, really wanted off the HBO show**

Sure, Sarah Jessica Parker did some career-defining work as Carrie Bradshaw on HBO's Sex in the City, but you would not believe how much she didn't want to do the show at first.

Or maybe you would, I don't know. I'm not a mind-reader.

But anyway, fellow thespian Seth Rudetsky just finished a production with Parker and her husband, Matthew Broderick, in Prov-

incetown, Mass., and he's come home with some revelations from the lady herself that he's sharing over on Playbill.com.

Chief among them is the lengths Parker went to in order to try and get out of her Sex in the City contract.

"She was reluctant to do the pilot because she didn't really want to do a series. However, she loved the script so she filmed it and then forgot about it," Rudetsky writes.

"Months later she found out the show was picked up and she completely wanted to get out of it. I mean, completely."

So, completely, then?

"She tried various ways to get out of it including telling HBO that she would film three projects for free if they'd release her from her contract," he reveals.

That's pretty severe, as far as negotiating tactics go.



Seth Rudetsky claims that early on, Sarah Jessica Parker went to great lengths to get out of her Sex in the City contract.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO, ALL OTHER PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

VMAS**Kanye's Vanguard**

If you were worried that there might be fewer reasons for Kanye West's ego to keep itself inflated, rest easy.

MTV has announced that it is celebrating West with this year's Video Vanguard Award — basically the network's lifetime achievement award — at the VMAs. Previous recipients have included Michael Jackson — for whom the award is named — Madonna, Beastie Boys, U2 and Beyoncé.

I can only assume Taylor Swift will be getting it next year.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO



Kanye West

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What they're asking

Midrise condominium buildings blend well into existing, established neighbourhoods. This week, Metro looks at one-bedroom suites in newer resale midrise buildings around the downtown.

Duncan McAllister FOR METRO

ASKING PRICES WERE ACCURATE AT TIME OF PUBLISHING.



\$488,800

Calgary

This rare, top-floor unit at Providence Kensington is located at 1321 Kensington Cl. NW, in the Hillhurst area. It faces south to enjoy the sunlight, and the downtown skyline out the patio door. "This unit is one of the nicest in the building," says listing agent Justin Havre. There's a built-in desk, and a modern, high-end Murphy bed. The kitchen features granite counters, rich cabinets, cork floors, air conditioning and underground parking. The building is in the heart of Kensington, close to shopping and downtown. Havre is an associate with RE/Max First, 403-278-2900.



\$234,900

Ottawa

For sale is a loft-style apartment in the Centretown area. Built in 2013, it's located in the heart of downtown, with a view of Bank Street from its floor-to-ceiling windows with western exposure. Listing agent Elaine Smallwood says the building has mostly young urban professionals who walk, bike or bus. The suite has concrete pillars and ceiling, as well as hardwood and tiled floors. Amenities include a pool, patio, barbecue, a gym and media room. Smallwood is a sales representative with Royal LePage Performance Realty, 613-859-6129.



\$285,800

Edmonton

Here's a trendy, 829-sq.-ft., one-bedroom condo for sale in the Century Park building. It features a modern, open floor plan with nine-foot ceilings. The suite includes granite countertops in the kitchen, a counter-height eating bar and stainless steel appliances. The bathroom has an enclosed glass shower and marble tile. There's an exercise room in the building and an underground parking spot. It's close to shopping and restaurants, and the LRT is at the door. Listing agent Darlene Strang is an associate with Re/Max Real Estate, 780-908-3131.



\$297,900

Halifax

This one-bedroom suite at The Anchorage in Dartmouth overlooks the canal with harbour views. It features an open-concept floor plan with floor-to-ceiling windows to maximize natural light. Listing agent Rose Brine says that residents have access to the Marina. The kitchen has high-end Bosch stainless steel appliances and polished granite countertops. The great room is perfect for entertaining, with a breakfast bar dividing the living room and kitchen. Brine is an associate with Royal LePage Anchor Realty, 902-471-2934.



\$369,900

Vancouver

Here's a charming unit for sale on Robson Street in Vancouver. The Robson Garden is a well-managed all-concrete building located in the dynamic downtown core. The suite is a large, south-facing one-bedroom unit with lots of light, private and very quiet, with views of the city skyline. The building boasts a Walk Score of 98, and parking is available for \$25 per month. The listing agent is Yi (Leo) Zhang with Sincere Real Estate Services, 778-238-9619.



\$338,000

Toronto

"A boutique condominium with a superb location," says listing agent Alex J. Wilson. The unit is located in the heart of Toronto's financial and entertainment districts. The condo is close to the University subway line, as well as shopping, theatre and restaurants on King Street West. Building amenities include an outdoor pool, games room, a party room, and 24-hour concierge. The suite includes all windows coverings and appliances. Wilson is with RE/Max Condos Plus Corporation, 416-996-5181.



\$169,900

Winnipeg

What's old is new again at this midrise building in the Crescentwood neighbourhood. This character condo has been completely modernized and restored. Listing agent Kenneth Clark says, "This one was built in 1923, a three-storey walk-up. The suite is gorgeous and completely remodelled." It features a bright and sunny top-floor location, a corner suite with windows on three sides. Bus service is at the door, and a grocery store and trendy restaurants are walkable. Clark is a broker with Realty Executives Premiere, 204-955-3887.

First day, done the right way

PARENTING 101

Let excitement show, and don't worry because your child may pick up on that

Izabela Szydlo
For Metro

It seems like it was just yesterday that you were bringing home your little bundle of joy from the hospital, and in a few weeks your baby set off on the first day of school. While your child is excited, you are a nervous wreck.

"I remember my kid going up the stairs on his first day of school," said Brandie Weikle. "The backpack seemed so huge on him and his legs looked so tiny. I was slightly choked up, but you gotta be all smiles for your kid."

Weikle is a longtime parenting expert and founder of thenewfamily.com, a blog that examines and celebrates modern family life. The mom of two said it is common to feel worried about this big step but she recommends self-reflection.

"Whenever you are worried, it's good to examine that because worry doesn't do anything for us," she said. "If everything is pointing to your child having a happy experience then you should absolutely put your faith in that and try to relax."

This is especially important in the weeks leading up to the first day of school, as you don't want your child to pick up on your anxiety or speak in a way that would suggest he might not have a good experience, Weikle said.

"You may be putting something in their heads that they aren't worried about yet. Instead, you want to be giving the message that this is an exciting step and you're proud that they

are big enough to go to school. If you do get emotional, explain, 'I'm having happy tears because I can't believe you're so big already.'"

Another aspect of curbing your worries, Weikle said, is to ask yourself whether your nervousness is a projection of something you went through during your childhood.

"Your kid is not a mini-you," she said. "They won't have the same set of experiences. Tricky peer issues, for example, are not something you need to set them up for beforehand. We tend to shelter our children and give ourselves the impression that they are these fragile little people. We have to be careful not to do that."

And no, the Toronto mom said, it is never OK to drive behind the school bus.

"If you're supervising the bus driver, you're suggesting that it's unsafe unless you are there or that the driver is unreliable. Say 'I love you,' and cut and run."



Keeping calm on the first day will help your little scholar enjoy the experience. SHUTTERSTOCK

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Get schooled in smartphones

Mike Yawney
For Metro

Smartphones have replaced many of the school supplies we used to tote to the classroom each fall.

They are our new scientific calculators, voice recorders, encyclopedias and dictionaries. Here are some of the best smartphones for students returning to school this September.

IPHONE 6 PLUS \$969 (NO CONTRACT)

A thin and light smartphone with a beautiful screen, Apple's iPhone 6 Plus is a powerhouse.

The 5.5-inch screen not only boasts incredible resolution, but gives students enough on-screen real estate to get

work done. With hundreds of thousands of apps, your iPhone can be used for just about anything. On top of all this, the built-in M8 motion coprocessor tracks movement to help students achieve their fitness goals, as well as get good grades.

MOTO G \$199 (NO CONTRACT)

Rugged and durable, Motorola's latest smartphone is perfect for the student lifestyle. Toss it in a locker, or pitch it in a backpack, the smartphone will withstand almost anything a student throws at it. The Moto G is water resistant to protect it against leaking drinks, and the Gorilla Glass

will ensure the screen remains free of scratches. Students can also customize the look of this Android phone with Motorola Shells, which come in a variety of colours and materials.

LG G4 \$699.99 (NO CONTRACT)

The perfect phone for students who love to document life on campus. The 16-megapixel rear camera takes incredible photos even in low light, while the front-facing 8-megapixel camera is perfect for selfies or pictures with friends. The front camera also records in full 1080p HD, creating bright and vibrant video messages and videos for family and friends, near or far. This phone also features a manual camera mode, giving users ul-

timate control over their photos.

SONY XPERIA M4 AQUA \$300 (NO CONTRACT)

Remember the days when cellphones lasted more than a day on a single charge? Sony takes us back to a time when battery life mattered

with this Android handset. A single charge will last two days, ensuring you never hear the phrase "sorry, my phone died" from your teen ever again. Not only is it waterproof, it's also dust proof, ensuring no annoying specs get under the glass screen.

SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 EDGE \$849.99 (NO CONTRACT)

A stylish smartphone that stands out from the crowd with a screen unlike any you have ever seen. By wrapping around the outer edges, the screen not only gives more

space to work on, you can also see notifications even if your phone is sitting face down on your desk. The rapid-charge feature gives you four hours worth of use after just 10 minutes of plugging it in. If you purchase a charge pad, you can take advantage of the wireless charge feature, which gets rid of annoying cables.

ASUS ZENFONE 2 \$379.99 (NO CONTRACT)

This beautiful smartphone not only looks stylish, but is ergonomically designed to fit comfortably in your hand. Not only does this phone feature a quad-core processor, it's also the world's first to feature up to 4GB of dual-channel DDR3 RAM, ensuring it handles any app or task you throw at it with ease. The 13-megapixel camera features a Super HDR mode, which

expands the dynamic range by four times, allowing you to snap photos of your friends in ultra-bright environments, even in front of a setting sun, with amazing results.

HTC ONE M9 \$699.95 (NO CONTRACT)

All work and no play makes for a boring student life. This Android device is ideal for not only school work, but for everything else that happens after class. With access to the Google Play store, you have all the apps you could ever need. When the work is done, enjoy movies and videos with dual front speakers, which give immersive sound unlike anything you've ever heard before on a smartphone.

Clockwise, from top left:
LG G4, \$699.99; Samsung Galaxy S6 EDGE, \$849.99;
Sony Xperia M4 Aqua, \$300;
iPhone 6 Plus, \$969; HTC One M9, \$699.95; Moto G, \$199.

Make your next app a smart download

Smartphones and tablets have changed the way we learn both in and out of the classroom. With hundred of thousands of apps, smartphones are no longer used just to chat with family and friends, they have become powerful educational tools.

Here are some of the best apps for students, whether they are heading to pre-school or university.

SLICE FRACTIONS — \$4.59 IOS, ANDROID

This fun and intuitive app helps children between the ages of six and eight learn about fractions. Aligned with most major curriculums, the app features more than 90 puzzles designed to challenge kids. The clever user interface gets them learning by slicing shapes, not reading text. It's so much fun they don't even know they are learning. Best of all there are no ads or in-app purchases.

BRAINSCAPE — FREE (IN-APP PURCHASES) IOS

Flashcards are a simple yet efficient way to study. This app lets students create their

own cards on a wide variety of subjects and topics. Using repetition, the app repeats the cards in calculated intervals to promote learning. Study by yourself or share cards to study in groups. If you don't have time to make flashcards, you can purchase pre-made sets within the app itself. New topics are added every week.

ALARMY — \$1.99 IOS, ANDROID

Never sleep in again. Alarmy forces you out of bed in the morning, making sure you don't hit the snooze button. The alarm won't turn off until you perform a certain set of tasks.

You may be asked to take a picture of a certain item, or shake the phone up and down a set number of times. If you don't complete the task the alarm continues to ring.



BRAINSCAPE

IHOMEWORK — \$1.99 IOS

Simplify busy student life with this slick app. Students can keep track of upcoming work and reading assignments with the colour-coded calendar. The reminders feature will ensure they don't forget about upcoming projects. Those concerned about grades can keep track of marks throughout the year so they know where they stand before heading into exams. The app is also ideal for students attending new schools, as you can mark course locations on a map so you're never lost or late for class. **MIKE YAWNEY**

Capture the first day memories forever with a Nikon D3300 DSLR.

Nikon
D3300



Life is full of surprising, joyful moments—moments worth remembering. The D3300 makes it fun and easy to preserve those moments in the lifelike beauty they deserve: stunning 24.2-megapixel photos and 1080p Full HD videos with tack-sharp details, vibrant colours and softly blurred backgrounds. Like sharing photos? The D3300 photos can appear instantly on your compatible smartphone or tablet for easy sharing with the optional WU-1a Wireless Adapter!

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Right on track in Calgary

WEEK 10 PICK



Stampeders at Bombers, Saturday, 4 p.m.

Don't look now but the defending Grey Cup champions are all alone atop the West Division standings.

Calgary (6-2) faces the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on Saturday and heads into weekend action tied with Hamilton and Toronto for CFL's the best record.

Not surprising, the Stampeders are a stellar 5-0 at McMahon Stadium and 2-0 within the West Division. However, Calgary is just 1-2 on the road.

Robert Marve was 18-of-29 passing for 203 yards with a TD and interception in his CFL debut, a 27-20 home loss two weeks ago to Toronto that it won by outscoring the Bombers 13-3 in the final quarter.

Points have been at a premium this season for Winnipeg (3-5), which is ranked second-last in scoring with a 20-point average. Defensively, the Bombers are eighth overall in points allowed (29.6) but did a nice job holding Toronto quarterback Trevor Harris to just 168 yards passing.

Pick — Calgary

CFL

Rogers' past in athletics is translating well

Watching Stampeders receiver Eric Rogers in full turf-chewing stride towards the end zone, you might guess his college track and field specialty was the 400 metres.

But Rogers was actually a triple-jumper as well as a football player at California Lutheran. His muscle recoil and comfort when airborne was evident in a spectacular touchdown catch late in the first half of Saturday's 34-31 win over the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

With time expiring in the half and quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell airmailing from midfield, Rogers rose above a swarm of leaping green jerseys in the end zone to haul in a 46-yard touchdown catch for an 18-9 halftime lead.

The CFL's current leader in receiving yards (660) and touchdowns (seven) says practising the art of track's hop, step and jump, cultivated some of the tools to make that catch.

"Triple jump, definitely a lot of body control," Rogers explained Wednesday after practice at McMahon Stadium. "You're on one foot for three consecutive jumps so there's a lot of body control in the air."

"That definitely translated over to the field, to be able to go up and torque your body into any position you need to get that catch. I saw the ball thrown, tracked it very well, got underneath it."

"You're a much stronger jumper off of two feet than one. I went up off two and was able to secure the ball and make a play."

A speedy six-foot-three, 210-pound slotback with a vertical of about 90 centimetres poses a headache for opposing defensive backs.

"He creates a lot of mismatch problems for a lot of smaller DB's out there," Mitchell said. "He has the body position and the ability to go up and hold guys off and as guys are swatting at him, hold onto the football and bring it down."

Rogers, 24, is the first player with TD catches in six consecutive games since Saskatchewan's Weston Dressler in 2012.

He was added to Calgary's practice roster in July of last year. Rogers didn't play until the penultimate game of the regular season Oct. 24 against Saskatchewan.

He had two TD catches in Calgary's regular-season finale against B.C., and another two in the West Division final win versus Edmonton. Rogers was Calgary's leading receiver in the Grey Cup win with five catches for 108 yards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



I wanted to jump 50 (feet) at least one time.

Eric Rogers set a triple-jump record for Division III California Lutheran in his junior year 49 feet 8.5 inches.



Eric Rogers went on to become California Lutheran's all-time leader in receiving yards (3,461), touchdown catches (41), receptions (220) and scoring (270). JEFF VINNICK/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Tigers' Verlander falls just short of no-hitter

Justin Verlander lost a bid for his third no-hitter when Chris Iannetta lined a lead-off double in the ninth inning that landed barely fair on the left-field line, and the Detroit Tigers beat the Los Angeles Angels 5-0 Wednesday night.

Trying to become the sixth major leaguer to throw three no-hitters, Verlander settled instead for a one-hit shutout.

He was an inch away from so much more.

Iannetta's shot kicked up chalk and rolled into the left-field corner. Verlander attempted to will it foul with body English, then arched his back in disappointment after the ball hit right on the line.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rooney's scoring touch returns vs. Brugge

Wayne Rooney ended a 10-game scoring drought by grabbing a hat trick in Manchester United's 4-0 win at Bruges that eased the English team into the Champions League group stage on Wednesday.

United won 7-1 on aggregate and returned to Europe's premier competition after a one-year absence.

Rooney's confidence grew after putting United ahead in Belgium in the 20th with a lobbed finish over the diving goalkeeper, his first club goal since April 4. The England captain added more goals in the 49th and 57th minutes as Bruges' defence was repeatedly opened up.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's gold overshadowed by doping

Kenya made history at the world championships on Wednesday when javelin thrower Julius Yego won the first gold medal in a field event for a country renowned as a distance running cradle.

The surprising gold, however, came on a day when two Kenyan runners were suspended for testing positive for doping, raising questions about the country's dominance so far in Beijing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Astros strike down Yankees

A green laser beam bounced around a fog-filled clubhouse, music blared from all corners of the darkened room. It's a post-game party that's becoming commonplace with these Houston Astros.

Gattis hit two home runs, Collin McHugh excelled once again and the Astros exceeded last season's win total, beating the Yankees 6-2 Wednesday in the Bronx.

"You could tell the pieces were here," said Gattis, in his first year with Houston. "We're not on an island out there. We

WEDNESDAY



could see it."

Still, did he expect such a dramatic turnaround?

"Maybe not this quick," he said.

The AL West leaders improved to 71-57, a year after going 70-92. With almost six weeks left on the schedule, the

Astros already have achieved their best season since 2010.

Houston also managed to win a road series for the first time since mid-June at Colorado, taking two of three at Yankee Stadium.

"We see what we've done and haven't done," McHugh said. "It's always there."

Following four seasons in which they averaged 104 losses, the Astros now lead the majors in home runs and have the best ERA in the AL and the most stolen bases.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS JAYS TORCH RANGERS AGAIN

Edwin Encarnacion follows through on a sixth-inning grand slam during Toronto's 12-4 win over the Rangers on Wednesday night. The Jays took a two-game lead over the Yankees atop the AL East with the win. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Brownie à la mode



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves 12.

Ingredients

- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup reduced-fat yogurt or reduced-fat sour cream
- 1/4 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 scoop (3 oz) frozen yogurt (optional)
- Icing sugar

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Spray a 10-inch ovenproof skillet with cooking oil.
2. To make the brownies: Combine the sugar, oil, egg and vanilla in a bowl and mix well. Add the cocoa, mixing it in well. Add the flour, baking powder, yogurt and chocolate chips, mixing just until combined and smooth. Don't overmix.
3. Pour the batter into the prepared skillet. Bake in the centre of the oven for 15 minutes, just until set. Sprinkle with icing sugar, if desired. Serve with frozen yogurt or light ice cream if using.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 140
- Protein 2 g
- Carbohydrates 20 g
- Fibre 1 g
- Total fat 7 g
- Saturated fat 1.5 g
- Cholesterol 20 mg
- Sodium 15 mg

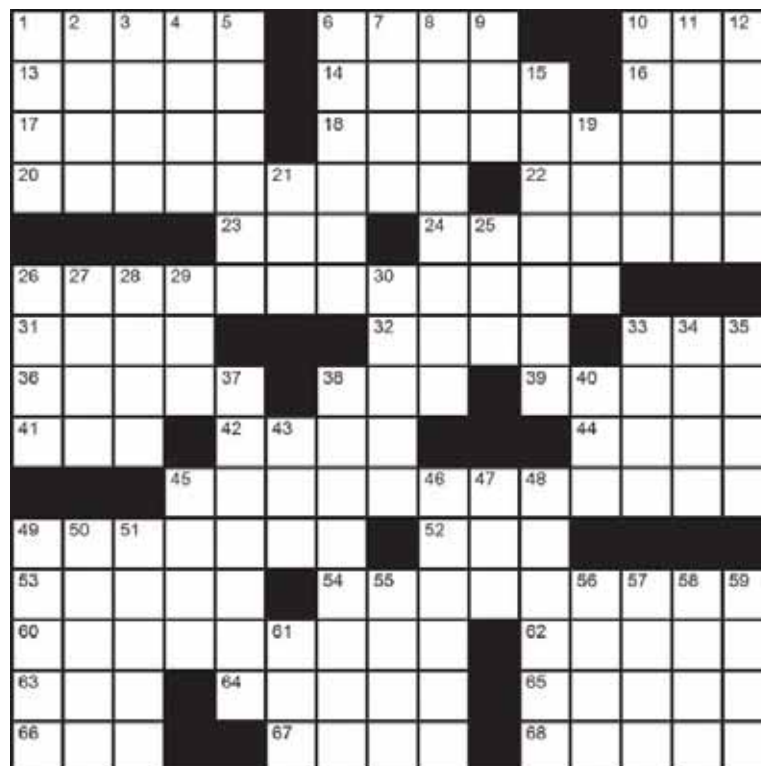
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Elegant instruments
6. Actress Ms. Gertz
10. US docs' org.
13. Literature's T.S.
14. Rice-_-
16. Getaway
17. Backslide
18. "Magic Mike" (2012) workplace: 2 wds.
20. Soft drink that has replaced aspartame in The States, but not in Canada: 2 wds.
22. Jostle
23. Tiny Tim's instr.
24. Farmers market, avenue and Metro station sharing the same name in Montreal
26. Emily Carr is wearing glasses in hers at the National Gallery of Canada
31. Unfeigned
32. 'Problem' suffix
33. Not in, Can-uck-style
36. "___ of God" (1985)
38. "Gangnam Style" rapper
39. Bisect
41. Peat's pal?
42. Tight
44. Docking spot
45. "The ___" (2000) George Clooney movie about the fishing vessel Andrea Gail ...parts of its wreckage washed up on the remote shores



49. Question/interview post-mission
52. 'Restrict' suffix
53. Acrylic fabric
54. Some houses
60. Nova Scotia: ___ of the Atlantic (Sable Island's nickname because of the many

- shipwrecks)
62. Leg bone
63. Melanie, to Dakota
64. Battle royal
65. Crunchy
66. Beer
67. Wing-like
68. Fasteners secured with padlocks

DOWN

1. Had in hand
2. Jai ___ (Court game)
3. Fruit's ready-to-be-eaten status
4. Station
5. ___ to the plate
6. National park

- designated a Dark-Sky Preserve by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
7. ___ & Sciences
8. Professor ___ (Character regarded as the 'Napoleon of crime' by Sher-

- lock Holmes)
9. Pasta names suffix
10. Dispense
11. Purple hue
12. Fossil resin
15. ___ Sparrow (Bird known to only breed on Sable Island)
19. Talk
21. Mr. ___ ("Lost" character)
25. Mai ___ (Cocktail)
26. Quick attempt
27. Therefore
28. Breather's one-of-two
29. Charge
30. Sample the food
33. Odd mixture
34. Completed
35. Condition
37. Feminism pioneer Gloria
38. Giant ___ (Wild mushroom that looks just like its name)
40. Inclined
43. "___ you serious?!"
45. Manitoba, e.g.
46. Kind of construction block
47. Dress
48. Take, as someone's purse
49. Tenet
50. Mr. Flynn
51. Finger point
55. Carbamide
56. Italy's former currency
57. Kimono's look-changers
58. Bit of bangs
59. Drains
61. Swanky 'sure'

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Negative feelings could come to the surface as the full moon draws close, but if you deal with them openly and honestly they should not bother you too much. Deal with it.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you feel like doing something different just do it and worry about the consequences later. If you seek advice, friends will tell you to forget about it — so don't ask.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Some things are possible and some are not. If you don't know the difference then what happens today will leave you in no doubt at all. Don't condemn yourself if you make a mistake: at least you tried.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something upsetting may occur but if you look at it logically and from a higher perspective you will see that fate is teaching you a lesson: sometimes you have to give up one thing in order to get something better.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your chores and duties may become such a burden that you consider getting rid of them and starting from scratch. Go for it. Be bold and change your life.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you want something badly enough you will find a way to get it, but you may regret it by the time of the full moon on Saturday. Try not to annoy people who are bigger than you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your sixth sense tells you that something big is going to happen but there is no need to get anxious about it. Whatever comes your way, you will make the most of it.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Something seems to be worrying you, but there is no need to torment yourself. Instead of focusing on what might go wrong, find ways to make life more enjoyable and rewarding.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
As far as your money situation is concerned things may have to get worse before they get better. The tide will turn by the start of next week and, looking back, you will realize it was all for your own good.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do the right thing at the right time, especially on the work front. If you act too fast or, worse, too slow you will open yourself up to criticism from rivals and others who don't want you to succeed.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are doing a lot of self-analysis of late. You keep asking yourself why you let yourself to feel the way you did about issues that are of no real importance. Let it go.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
For quite some time now you have had the feeling that you are on the wrong track, and what happens next may confirm your suspicions. This is the start of a new adventure.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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